

32. (New) The interactive television system according to claim 1, wherein said transmitting means for transmitting said television signal over said television distribution network further includes means for transmitting accompanying audio over a telephone link.

Please cancel without prejudice Claim 19.

Remarks:

In response to the Office Action dated, April 15, 2002 please find an amended claim 1 and additional new independent claims all of which now have incorporated the subject matter of cancelled claim 19, namely an interactive presentation source producing interactive images which are continuously transmitted from a carousel of images. (Reference Applicant's disclosure, page 6, lines 15 through 24; page 9, lines 8 through 16; page 22, lines 3 through 18; and page 22, lines 23 through 24.) Respectfully, it is believed that the carousel feature along with the additional features highlighted in the new claims distinguish the Applicant's claims from the prior art cited.

More specifically, a number of the claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C 103 as being unpatentable over the Fujita et al patent in view of the Jackson et al patent. With reference to claim 1, the office action states that the Fujita patent essentially discloses all of the same subject matter recited in this claim, with the exception of a multiplexer to combine/multiplex the still frames of the interactive source with the frames of the TV signal source of Fujita. To this end, the office action depends on Jackson et al patent for its disclosure of the multiplexing of still frame signals with a standard TV signal, and concludes that it would be obvious to modify the system of the Fujita patent to multiplex still images with a standard video signal. It is respectfully submitted that the combined teachings of the two do not suggest the claimed invention to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

The Jackson patent discloses a system which relies upon the redundancy in a television signal to transmit education information. In the system of the Jackson et al patent, a normal television receiver (7) of (Fig. 3.) is not inhibited from displaying an ETV program field. Rather, in the system of the Jackson et al patent, the ETV fields are transmitted with a sufficiently low duty cycle that they are viewed in a "subliminal" fashion, i.e. they are sufficiently infrequent that they are not separately recognized by the viewer. The Jackson multiplexing is both inefficient and not practical for most broadcast applications. In contrast, the present invention addresses the key issues. The applicant's claim 1 recites, "a selection means" to select interactive presentations or broadcast video presentations to be displayed while the "capture means" retransmits the selected images while non-selected images are inhibited from being displayed at the receiver. Claim 1,

includes the additional distinguishing features of a multiplexer which is a switch, controlled by a video motion detector.

It is therefore respectfully submitted, that even if the teachings of the Jackson et al patent were to be incorporated into a system as that disclosed in the Fujita et al patent, the result would not be the same as the subject matter recited in claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of this claim is therefore respectfully requested.

Additional independent claims have been included to further highlight the distinguishing aspects of the invention with respect to the prior art cited. Each of the new claims include the "interactive video images continuously transmitted from a carousel of images" as well as additional features.

The informalities of claims 13 – 15 noted by the Examiner have been corrected.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Michael H. Pocock

485 Queens Avenue
London, Ontario
Canada, N6B-1Y3
(519)-439-6100

Date: November 8, 2004